

those who are Braves fans, to support House Resolution 660.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Mr. Randy Johnson on his perfect game. Throughout his long career, Mr. Johnson has been a fierce opponent with his vicious change-up and scorching fastball. On May 18, Mr. Johnson achieved perfection. At the age of 40, and after being awarded the Cy Young award in both the American and National Leagues, Randy Johnson threw a perfect game. He is the oldest pitcher to achieve this athletic triumph.

With this achievement, Mr. Johnson joins an elite class of pitchers that spans the history of America's game and include baseball legends Cy Young, Don Larsen, Sandy Koufax, and Catfish Hunter.

Mr. Johnson has been one of the pre-eminent pitchers in baseball over a career that has spanned 17 years. We congratulate Randy Johnson for pitching a perfect game and recognize him for a brilliant pitching career.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG).

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 660 and to congratulate and honor Randy Johnson of the Arizona Diamondbacks, more affectionately known to us in Arizona as "The Big Unit." As I think everyone knows, on May 18 of this year in an extraordinary feat against the Atlanta Braves, Randy Johnson became only the 17th pitcher in the history of major league baseball to throw a perfect game. That is right. Twenty-seven Atlanta Brave hitters came to the plate, and 27 Atlanta Brave hitters went down.

Now, many of us strive for perfection in many aspects of our lives, but it is rarely achieved; but not only did Randy Johnson do this on May 18, but he was at the time 40 years old, making him the oldest pitcher in Major League Baseball to throw a perfect game.

Now, prior to that, Cy Young, in whose name a famous award is given each year, at the age of 37 had been the oldest pitcher to throw a perfect game, having done it 100 years ago in 1904.

Randy Johnson is also only the fifth pitcher in major league history to throw no-hitters in both the American and the National Leagues. In fact, Johnson's previous no-hitter came in 1990 while pitching for the Seattle Mariners.

Johnson grew up in Livermore, California, where his father, Bud, was a police officer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. As a young boy, Randy would practice pitching against his garage door, pretending to be in the big leagues. Even at 8 years old, John-

son threw the ball so hard it would pop nails loose from the wood siding. After he was done, his father would proudly come up to him and hand him a hammer and tell him to go put the nails back into the wall.

Standing 6 feet 10 inches and with a 38-inch arm, Johnson is one of the most intimidating pitchers in all of the game of baseball; and it has earned him, as I indicated, the nickname "The Big Unit."

Randy Johnson's perfect game will certainly fit nicely within his already very, very impressive list of accomplishments.

Throughout his 21 years in Major League Baseball, Randy Johnson has won a World Series, beating the New York Yankees in 2001; during his tenure, he has been named World Series co-MVP, along with former Diamondback pitcher Curt Schilling; thrown no-hitters in both the American and National leagues; as I mentioned, won the Cy Young Awards in both the American and National Leagues; and set multiple strikeout records, trailing only Nolan Ryan, Roger Clemens, and Steve Carlton on the all-time strikeout leaders list.

By pitching a perfect game, Randy Johnson joins an elite class of pitchers that spans the ages and includes some of the all-time baseball greatest. In his quest for perfection, Randy Johnson threw only 117 pitches, 87 of which were strikes. He struck out the first 13 of 27 hitters he faced, utilizing his blistering fastball and devastating slider to perfection, and went to a three-ball count on just one Braves hitter.

To understand just how perfect "The Big Unit" was on this night, we need only look at the radar gun on his very last pitch. Randy Johnson's 117th pitch of that night, his final pitch, was clocked at a shocking 98 miles an hour.

Randy Johnson is considered one of the best pitchers in Major League Baseball today and has set a course that will lead him straight to Coopers-town. I am very proud to honor him in this effort.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 660.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 660, the resolution just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING DETROIT PISTONS ON WINNING THE 2004 NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 679) congratulating the Detroit Pistons on winning the 2004 National Basketball Association championship.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. Res. 679

Whereas on June 15, 2004, the Detroit Pistons defeated the Los Angeles Lakers to win the 2004 National Basketball Association (NBA) Championship;

Whereas the Pistons defeated the Milwaukee Bucks four games to one in the first round of the playoffs;

Whereas the Pistons defeated the defending Eastern Conference Champion New Jersey Nets four games to three in the hard fought Eastern Conference Semifinals;

Whereas the Pistons defeated the Indiana Pacers, the number one seeded team in the Eastern Conference, four games to two in the Eastern Conference Finals;

Whereas the Pistons defeated the Lakers four games to one in the NBA Finals, winning their first NBA Championship since 1990 and becoming the first Eastern Conference team to win the championship since 1998;

Whereas the gritty offense of the Pistons was lead by Richard Hamilton, who averaged more than 21.5 points and 4.2 per assists per game throughout the NBA playoffs;

Whereas Rasheed Wallace overcame a foot injury to provide 26 points and 13 rebounds in the crucial game four victory;

Whereas Ben Wallace, a two-time NBA defensive player of the year and three-time member of the NBA All-Defensive First Team, brought the working-class mind-set to the Pistons and symbolizes the Pistons stifling defense;

Whereas Tayshaun Prince played tenacious defense and prevented Lakers superstar Kobe Bryant from being an effective scorer against the Pistons;

Whereas Chauncey Billups was voted the Most Valuable Player of the Finals for his outstanding performance throughout the NBA playoffs, averaging 21 points and 5.2 assists while only committing 2.6 turnovers per game;

Whereas Head Coach Larry Brown did an outstanding job preparing the Pistons for victory over an exceptional Lakers team and became the first head coach to win both the NBA and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Basketball Championships;

Whereas former Piston and current President of Basketball Operations Joe Dumars, Coach Brown, and assistant coaches John Kuester, Mike Woodson, Dave Hanners, Herb Brown, and Igor Stefan Kokoskov have provided strong leadership and solid coaching, resulting in a basketball team in which teamwork and hard work are the rule and not the exception;